(b) if so, what are its recommendations; and

(c) what decisions have been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) to (c) No Committee has been appointed to carry out feasibility study of a low cost airline. However, a Committee has been constituted to study the modalities of low cost operations from Kerala to Gulf under the aegis of Air India Charters Ltd. This Committee has yet to finalise its report. Final decision will be taken after ascertaining the financial and economic viability of the project.

Additional flights to Jammu and Kashmir

890. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the frequency of flights to Jammu and Kashmir due to heavy rush of tourists in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when additional flights are likely to resume?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines has no plans to increase the services to/from Jammu & Kashmir, at present. Indian Airlines, however, operates additional flights to Jammu & Kashmir depending on the passenger demand from time to time. Such flights were operated to Leh during Sindhu Darshan festival in June 2003 and to Srinagar for Amarnath Yatra in July 2003.

Compensation for land acquired for Airport projects

†891. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether private land has been acquired by Government for expansion of airports in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether land of some farmers has been acquired by Government for expansion of airport situated in Dehradun; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof and the names of the farmers or organisations who have been provided compensation by Government, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) State Government concerned acquire land and hand over to Airports Authority of India (AAI) for taking up expansion and development works at airports.

(b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has so far not received any land from the State Government for expansion of airport situated in Dehradun.

(c) Does not arise.

Funds for expansion of Jolly Grant Airport

†892. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds meant for expansion of Jolly Grant Airport (Uttaranchal) have been made available to State Government; and

(b) if not, the reasons for delay and by when the said funds would be made available to State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) As per the procedure, State Government concerned acquires land and hands over to Airports Authority of India (AAI) for directly taking up expansion and upgradation works at airports by AAI. AAI undertakes all developmental works departmentally at its airports.

(b) Does not arise.

Appointment on humanitarian grounds

893. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2684 given in the Rajya Sabha on 17th December, 2002 and state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines appoint persons on humanitarian grounds under peculiar conditions;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.